

Notice of Allowability.

Application No.

10/624,575

Examiner

Minh D. A

Applicant(s)

MAYER ET AL.

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/03/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 16-18.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Primary Examiner

Remark

1. Applicant's communication filed on November 03/2005 has been carefully considered by the examiner. The arguments advanced and canceled claim are persuasive with respect to the rejections of record, and final rejections is accordingly withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 16-18 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art does not teach that, at least one transistor switching unit (T2) having a gate; and a current limiting a device is (T3, D1, D2 , D3, C3) couple to the gate of the at least one transistor switching unit (T2), wherein the current limiting device is operable to switch the at least one transistor unit on and off as a function of a current flowing through the least on transistor unit; a load circuit (L1-A,C1,C2) connected between the inverter and the lamp, the load circuit having a resonant frequency; and a phase setting device (R2, C2, L2) connected to the gate of the at least one transistor switching unit (T2), the phase setting device being operable to match the operating frequency of the inverter to the resonant frequency of the load circuit recited in independent claims 1 and 18.

Prior art does not teach that, at least one transistor switching unit (T2) having a gate; and a current limiting a device is (T3, D1, D2 , D3, C3) couple to the gate of the at least one transistor switching unit (T2), wherein the current limiting device is operable to switch the at least one transistor unit on and off as a function of a current flowing

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through the least one transistor unit; wherein the at least one transistor switching unit (T2) is connected to ground via a first resistor (R1) and the current limiting device comprises: a switching device (T3) having a base, an emitter, and a collector; wherein the emitter is connected to ground; a capacitor (C3) coupled between the base of the switching device (T3) and ground; a first zener diode (D1) coupled between the first resistor (R1) and the base of the switching device (T3); a second zener diode (D2) coupled between the collector of the switching device (T3) and ground and a third Zener diode (D3) coupled between the gate of the at least one transistor switching unit (T2) and the collector of the switching device (T3) in combination with all limitations recited in independent claim 17.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Sabate (US 6,424,101) and Konopka et al . (US 6,194,845) are cited to show a lighting control system.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Minh A whose telephone number is (571) 272-1817. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (5:30 –2:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong, can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1553.

Primary Examiner



Examiner

Minh A

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12/20/05